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INFORMATION REPORT
Berlin

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT German Administration of the Interior
-- Organization

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

EVALUATION OF SOURCE

EVALUATION OF CONTENT

A	B	C	D	E	F	1	2	3	4	5	6
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	NOT RELIABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED OTHER SOURCE	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED

SOURCE: ~~Well informed Soviet born official.~~

1. The reorganization of the German Administration of the Interior in the Russian-Occupied Zone, which began in the summer of 1948, now appears to be largely completed. Although it is possible that minor changes will still be made and perhaps new sections established, the organizational picture, as presented on the attached chart, will probably not be subject to any structural change for the next several months.
2. The attached chart on the GAI organization illustrates several major developments, all of which have been apparent for some time past. Among them are the elevation of Erich Mielke to the rank of Deputy President, thus clearly establishing his command relationship to the Vice-Presidents, who, up till recently, were his co-equals. The chart also illustrates the central control of what the Communist leadership regards as the key branches, i.e., Personnel, Paramilitary and Border Police, Polit-Kultur Branch, and Schools and Training (including the Police Academy).
3. Following are brief descriptions of the functions of the various GAI branches:
 - a. The Office of the President -- The President of the GAI: Dr. h.c. Kurt Fischer; supported by an aide-de-camp, four personal assistants, and two secretaries, President Fischer exercises command and control over all phases of GAI activity. Erich Mielke is Deputy President. The functions of Vice-Presidents Wagner and Seifert are illustrated on the attached chart.
 - b. The Secretariat -- Chief, Arthur Kunath. Gives administrative and clerical support to the President; the Secretariat receives all mail addressed to the GAI and controls the activities of the interpreters. It also exercises undefined supervisory functions over the administrative branches of the GAI (see paras. c to f below).
 - c. Secret Registry (Verschlussabteilung -- Abt. VS) -- Luise Zenk. Files all material of a classified nature, including all communications involving an occupying power.

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- d. Public Relations and Library (Pressestelle und Bücherei) -- Hermann Dünow. In addition to its very rare public relations functions, this office maintains an extensive library on matters pertaining to police activities all over the world.
- e. Administrative Services Branch (Hauptabteilung Allgemeine Verwaltung) -- Chief of Branch: Erich Kaarcz. This branch -- not to be confused with the Administrative Police (Verwaltungspolizei) or the Municipal Administration (Abteilung Verwaltung) -- is charged with the administrative support required by the large and complex GAI organization in Berlin-Wilhelmsruhe. It has several functional subdivisions, including a bookkeeping department, finance section, departments for office and building supplies, and so forth. It is also charged with the operation and maintenance of the Motor Pool and the Cafeteria.
- f. Guard Unit (Wachkommando) -- Chief: Richard Stockmann. Charged with the physical security of the GAI installations, the guard unit at Berlin-Wilhelmsruhe consists of approximately 180 paramilitary police. The "Wachkommando" has only static guard functions and is not included in the paramilitary police organization controlled by the "Border and Paramilitary Branch" described in para. 3 h below.
- g. SED Shop Group (SED Betriebsgruppe) -- Chief: Alfred Gromulat.
- h. Border and Paramilitary Police (Grenzpolizei und Bereitschaften -- Hauptabteilung GP/B) -- Chief of Branch: Hermann Rentzsch. Exercises central command and control functions over all border and paramilitary police establishments in all five Länder. Border and paramilitary police in the Länder are responsible primarily to the Hauptabt. GP/B of the GAI, and not to the Länder Chiefs of Police. Hauptabt. GP/B, which also controls its own administrative services, is an "empire within the empire" and is regarded by some as the cadre for a future German Army in the Soviet Zone. The Border and Paramilitary Police Branch is subdivided into the following functional divisions:
- G-1 -- Polit-Cultural matters
 - G-2 -- Operations
 - G-3 -- Personnel
 - G-4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 -- Quartermaster Services, Finance, and Ordnance; precise break-down not available at this time.
- i. Polit-Cultural Branch (Hauptabteilung Polit-Kultur -- P/K) -- Chief of Branch: Ernst Bogisch. The Polit-Cultural Branch is charged with the ideological and political indoctrination of police personnel in the Soviet Zone. It appoints delegates (called P/K men, or "political commissars") in all police units. These delegates, who usually rank as the No. 2 man in their respective units, may report directly to Hauptabt. P/K of the GAI on all matters pertaining to the morale, indoctrination, and political reliability of the personnel under their supervision.
- j. Personnel Branch (Hauptabteilung Personal "P") -- Richard Wenzel.
- k. Schools and Training (Hauptabteilung Schulung) -- (fnu) Zaspel. Responsible for the uniform training of police personnel in the Soviet Zone. It establishes the policy for the Police Academy (Höhere Polizeischule -- Advanced Police School) and supervises its functioning. The latter organization is particularly important because of its almost exclusive role of training police officials.

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1. Uniformed Constabulary (Schutzpolizei -- Hauptabteilung "S") -- Chief of Branch: Kurt Vogel. Coordinates and supervises normal municipal police functions in the Soviet Zone. Instructions and regulations are passed to municipal police organizations through the offices of the Ministers of the Interior and the Chiefs of the Lnder Police in the Soviet Zone. Hauptabteilung "S" is divided into the following functional departments:
- S-1 -- Office of the Chief of Branch, Coordination of Branch Administrative Services, General "Schutzpolizei" problems.
 - S-2 -- Organization and Operational Commitments.
 - S-3 -- Equipment -- Weapons, Ammunition, Transportation, Clothing, Horses and Dogs, Subsistence, Special Supplies.
 - S-4 -- Traffic Regulations, Emergency Squads.
 - S-5 -- Transportation matters.
 - S-6 -- Tele-communications and wireless equipment. Switch-board. Branch communications.
 - S-7 -- Supervision of prisons and prisoner transports.
 - S-8 -- Police Medical Affairs, Sanitary and Veterinary regulations.
- m. Criminal Police (Kriminalpolizei -- Hauptabteilung "K") -- August Mayer. Coordinates and supervises criminal police (detective force) functions in the Soviet Zone. Although part of the local police establishments, the Criminal Police in the Soviet Zone are closely controlled from Hauptabt. "K" of the GAI and as a result are largely independent of the chiefs of the municipal police forces. This is especially true of Section K-5 of the Criminal Police which functions as a secret political police throughout the Soviet Zone. Hauptabt. "K" is divided into the following functional departments:
- K/A -- Office of the Chief of Branch, General Criminal Police Problems, Organization and commitment.
 - K-1 -- Homicide, Robbery, Assault, Kidnapping, Arson.
 - K-2 -- Theft, Larceny, Embezzlement, Extortion, Other Property Crimes, Gambling, etc.
 - K-3 -- Economic Crimes endangering the State, Counterfeiting, Smuggling, Narcotics, etc.
 - K-4 -- Suppression of Vice, Sexual delinquencies, White Slavery.
 - K-5 -- Political Police. Assignments from the Occupying Power, Subversion, Denazification.
 - K-6 -- Juvenile Delinquency.
 - K-7 -- Investigations and Searches, Criminological Laboratory, Scientific Aids, Liaison with other police agencies, Crime Statistics.

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- n. Railway Police (Eisenbahnpolizei -- Hauptabteilung "E") -- Chief of Branch: (fnu) Günther (?). Exercises central control and command over the railway police assigned for operational purposes to the various Reichsbahndirektionen in the Soviet Zone. Originally intended to have executive authority on railway property only, the authority of this police has been gradually extended to the point where their activities often duplicate those of the municipal police. On occasion they have attempted to enforce GAI regulations in the Western Sectors of Berlin, on grounds of the "extra-territoriality" of Reichsbahn property. Originally under the sole control of the Reichsbahn, the Railway Police came under the jurisdiction of the GAI in the late fall of 1946. At the same time the GAI also assumed command over the Waterways Police. In course of the recent GAI reorganization the Waterways Police was supposed to have been transferred to the Waterways Directorate of the German Economic Commission. There is no information whether or not this transfer was actually accomplished. ~~Following the proposed transfer of the Waterways Police, Hauptabteilung "E" of the GAI was divided into the following major divisions:~~

- E/Wa/A -- Office of the Chief of Branch, Liaison with other authorities, especially the Central Administration for Traffic and the Reichsbahn, railway and waterway laws.
- E/1 -- Organisation and commitment of the Railway Police, including railway criminal police. Equipment. Crime Statistics, Communications.
- E/2 -- Railway traffic and building regulations. Enforcement. Right-of-way laws.
- E/3 -- Training, personnel matters, disciplinary courts.
- Wa/1 -- Organization and commitment of the Waterways Police. Equipment, Statistics, Communications.
- Wa/2 -- Waterways, Fishery, Barge, and other appropriate laws and regulations. Control of all water traffic.
- d. Administrative Police (Verwaltungspolizei -- Abt. "VP") -- Chief of Branch: Frick Lust. Previously one of the three major branches of the Soviet Zone police organization, the Administrative Police had been divested of most of its authority and responsibility during the recent reorganization of the GAI. Its present task is restricted largely to the issue of passes, supervision of registration procedures, and licensing regulations.
- p. Fire-Fighting Services (Abteilung Feuerwehr -- "F") -- Acting Chief of Branch: (fnu) Schülke. Established to formulate uniform fire-fighting regulations and to coordinate the municipal fire-fighting services in the Soviet Zone, Abteilung "F" was handicapped by the reorganization and the dismissal of most of its originally assigned personnel. As a result this branch is still largely non-operational.

Comment: The branches described in paras 1 to p are under onal supervision and direction of the senior Vice-President, Kurt Wagner.)

- q. Quartermaster Services (Intendantur -- Hauptabteilung "I") -- Chief of Branch: Arthur Brandt. The Quartermaster Services

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Branch was established in the summer of 1948. It is responsible for the miscellaneous support and services needed by the Soviet Zone police organization. Hauptabt. "I" also took over a large share of the functions formerly performed by the Administrative Police. Headed by a former German Army major general, the activities of the Quartermaster Services Branch are indicative of the centralistic, militaristic development within the GAI.

- r. Resettlement Administration (Umsiedler -- Abt. "U") -- Chief of Branch: Arthur Voigt. Originally an independent "Central Administration", the Resettlement Administration became part of the GAI in the late summer of 1947. Primarily concerned with absorbing the numerous expellees from formerly German territory in the East, it enjoys considerable autonomy within the GAI organization. Abt. "U" has no responsibilities in the police field and became a part of the GAI in anticipation of that agency's increased authority in all matters customarily handled by a Ministry of the Interior.

Municipal Administration Branch (Stadt- und Verwaltungsbereich) -- Chief of Branch: Alfred Wille. The Municipal Administration Branch was created in the late spring of 1948. Its aims were the supervision and coordination of municipal administrations down to the Stadtkreis and Landkreis level. It was also planned to give this branch supervising authority over public utilities, construction, price control, etc. To date the Abt. "Vw" has not developed beyond the planning stage. It has a skeleton staff only and no prospect of becoming operational in the near future.

Comment: Departments q, r, and s are under the personal supervision and direction of Vice-President Willi Seifert.)

4. The above description of the organization and functions of the German Administration of the Interior is of necessity restricted to the essentials and primarily intended to acquaint the recipients of this report with the organizational structure following the large-scale reorganization which took place in the second half of 1948.

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